

**REMARKS**

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103 or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

Claims 1-10 have been canceled. New claims 11-20 are in the application.

The specification was objected to "because its format does not comply with 37 CFR 1.77(b). The present specification, as presented herein, is believed to comply with 37 CFR 1.77(b).

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. Claims 5-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being narrative in form and do not contain positively recited steps of a specific process. Claims 5-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps.

As previously indicated, claims 1-10 have been canceled. New claims 11-20 are believed to satisfy 35 U.S.C. 112.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by the prior art, admitted by the Applicant. In support of this rejection, the Examiner appears to refer to Figure 3 of the present application and several portions of the present specification.

New independent claim 11 recites in part the following:

“wherein only a subset of the decoding units has a normalization unit associated therewith at its output side.”

It is respectfully submitted that arrangement of Fig. 3 does not disclose the above feature of claim 11. In fact, the arrangement of Fig. 3 specifically illustrates two decoders and two normalization units---that is, a first normalization unit associated with decoder 25 and a second normalization unit associated with decoder 30.

Thus, unlike in the turbo decoder of claim 11 “wherein only a subset of the decoding units has a normalization unit associated therewith at its output side;” in the arrangement of Fig. 3, all of the decoding units have a normalization unit associated therewith. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 11 is distinguishable from Fig. 3 of the present application.

For reasons similar to or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to claim 1, it is also respectfully submitted that independent claim 15 is distinguishable from Fig. 3 of the present application.

New claims 12-14 and 16-20 are dependent from one of independent claims 11 and 15 and, due to such dependency, are also believed to be distinguishable from Fig. 3 of the present application.


In the event, that the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing comments concerning the disclosures in the cited prior art, it is requested that the Examiner indicate where, in the reference, there is the basis for a contrary view.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable over the prior art, and early and favorable consideration thereof is solicited.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response and not paid herewith  
to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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